



Wisconsin's GREAT LAKES!

2011-2012 CALENDAR

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Office of the Great Lakes

The Wisconsin DNR Office of the Great Lakes is pleased to present our fourth annual *Wisconsin's Great Lakes* calendar. We hope this calendar will be a daily reminder of how magnificent Wisconsin's Great Lakes are and how we can all help protect them.

Wisconsin's GREAT LAKES!

Lake Michigan and Lake Superior have had a profound effect on our environment, our culture, and our quality of life. More than 20% of Wisconsin's land area lies within the Great Lakes basin. Half of our population lives there. We enjoy more than 1,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline. More than 1.6 million Wisconsin citizens get their drinking water from Lake Michigan or Lake Superior. We boat, fish, surf, and kayak on our Great Lakes. We hike, camp, ski and dogsled their shores. We play on their beaches and photograph their stunning sunrises and sunsets.

Lake Michigan and Lake Superior have fueled our economic growth in the past and – if properly restored and carefully protected – will help us revitalize our economy in the future. Our Great Lakes are the foundation of a valuable tourism industry in lakeshore communities. Their water is vital for manufacturing. Their harbors and marinas support a \$9.4 billion dollar a year recreational boating industry.

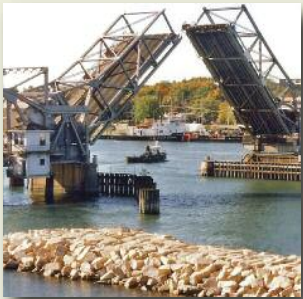


Photo by DEB SPENCER

Photo by DAVE TURICIANO



As the world's largest freshwater ecosystem, the Great Lakes are ecologically priceless. They support diverse aquatic and near-shore habitats. Sandy beaches, rocky shorelines, wetlands, and the world's largest freshwater dune system can all be found here. Each of these habitats – and its collection of plants and animals – is unique. Some are found nowhere else on earth.

Our Great Lakes are vast. They are also vulnerable. Polluted runoff and sediment from farm fields and cities, habitat loss, invasive species, toxic sediments, and climate change continue to threaten our Great Lakes. In this year's calendar we highlight some exciting restoration projects

More than 250,000 anglers enjoy Great Lakes sport-fishing opportunities. And the Great Lakes form a transportation network that links the heartland to global markets. More than \$7 billion worth of cargo passes through Wisconsin ports each year!

on Lake Michigan and Lake Superior. We include information about some of the lakes' most pressing issues, and we suggest ways that we can all help make sure our Great Lakes continue to be a valuable resource for generations to come.

Photographers from Wisconsin and beyond submitted over 200 beautiful photos for this year's contest. Wisconsin authors contributed a lovely collection of poems and song lyrics to our Great Lakes Writing Project. The photos and writings clearly show that the Great Lakes are among Wisconsin's most scenic and beloved natural resources.

Thank you to all the 2011 photographers and authors for sharing your talent with us!

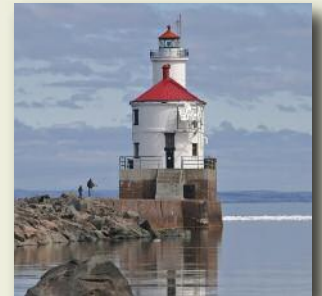


Photo by PHILIP SCHWARZ

Visit the Office of the Great Lakes website to see more photos and writing submissions
<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/greatlakes/contest/>



"As the largest freshwater ecosystem on Earth, the Great Lakes are among our most significant natural resources. Lake Michigan and Lake Superior contribute to Wisconsin's industry, tourism, recreation, and overall quality of life. They have shaped our past and will continue to shape our future."

— GOVERNOR SCOTT WALKER



Photo by JERRY ZAJICEK

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

Restoration and protection projects are underway throughout the Lake Michigan and Lake Superior watersheds thanks to federal Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funds. Fifty-one Wisconsin projects were selected to receive nearly \$30 million in GLRI funds through the U.S. EPA. Another 14 projects received \$1.2 million in GLRI funds from other federal agencies. These projects address Wisconsin's Areas of Concern where contaminated sediments remain buried in harbors; invasive species control; run-off pollution and near-shore health; habitat restoration; and monitoring, evaluation and communication.

We've highlighted some of Wisconsin's GLRI projects on the sidebars of this year's calendar. Find out more about GLRI projects statewide at dnr.wi.gov/org/water/greatlakes/glri/



"It's exciting to see our GLRI projects getting underway on Lake Michigan and Lake Superior. There is much to be done on these globally significant resources. The protection and restoration of these vast and priceless lakes will benefit Wisconsin's citizens now and for generations to come."

— CATHY STEPP, DNR Secretary



Photo by WAYNE RUNDELL

"Wisconsin's Great Lakes" PHOTO CONTEST

Send us your best photos of Lake Michigan or Lake Superior. We're looking for beautiful shorelines, kids and adults enjoying the lakes, cultural and historic aspects of the lakes, and people involved in lake protection or restoration efforts. Winning photos will be used in the 2012–2013 Wisconsin's Great Lakes calendar and in other Wisconsin DNR publications, presentations, websites and displays. Photo submission deadline is February 1, 2012. *Photos in all seasons are needed!*

Entry Categories (limit three photo entries per individual):

1. **People enjoying Wisconsin's Great Lakes.** Images of people fishing, kayaking, sailing, playing on the beach, etc.
2. **Natural features and wildlife.** Great Lakes shoreline, wetlands and tributaries, fish and other wildlife.
3. **Historic and cultural features.** Lighthouses, harbor towns, festivals, shipping, etc.
4. **Lake protection activities.** Images of restoration work, storm drain stenciling, beach clean-ups, sturgeon guards, research, etc.

Rules:

1. The contest is open to anyone. Photos must be submitted electronically.
2. Attach each photo (jpeg format) to a separate e-mail.
3. In each e-mail, please include the photo title, where in Wisconsin the photo was taken, the entry category, your name, e-mail address, mailing address, and phone number(s).
Submit to: DNRGreatLakesphotocontest@wisconsin.gov.
4. Photos must be high resolution, horizontal in orientation, and taken in Wisconsin.
5. The Wisconsin DNR reserves the right to use images entered in the contest for non-commercial educational or promotional use with credit to the photographer. For example, photos may be used for DNR displays, slide shows, videos, publications and website.

Judging:

Photos will be judged by a panel of Wisconsin DNR staff. Criteria for judging will include creativity, visual and technical merit, and composition.

Awards and Prizes:

Winning photographs will be included in the 2012–2013 *Wisconsin's Great Lakes* calendar. Winning photographers will be contacted by mail, phone or e-mail and will receive the calendar by mail.

E-mail photos and entry information to: DNRGreatLakesPhotoContest@wisconsin.gov

"Wisconsin's Great Lakes" WRITING PROJECT

Is your talent writing? Send us your original Great Lakes quote, essay, poem, song or rap. Help get the word out about how great Wisconsin's Great Lakes are. Share your favorite writings with us and you may find your words on our website, calendar, publications and displays! (All authors will be credited.)

E-mail writings to: DNRGreatLakesWriting@wisconsin.gov



ABOVE: "Break of Dawn"
by JOHN M. GLOWACKI
2nd Place – Natural Features and Wildlife
Racine, WI

Lake Michigan Invasive Plant Removal

A fast growing, aggressive strain of non-native *Phragmites australis* is wreaking havoc on our native wetlands. But the DNR and its many partners are fighting back.

Federal funds awarded through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) will support work to remove non-native *Phragmites* on 3,600 acres and 118 miles of the Lake Michigan shore. The DNR, along with Brown, Oconto, Marinette, Sheboygan, Door and Manitowoc counties, began work in the summer of 2011 to remove *Phragmites* and restore Lake Michigan's valuable wetlands.

Large stands (monocultures) of non-native *Phragmites* are sprayed by helicopter and smaller infestations are sprayed by hand. As soon as the *Phragmites* is gone and light can reach the soil, native seeds begin to grow. After two or three years, a more natural, native, and valuable wetland will result. Continued management will keep non-native *Phragmites* out.

For more information about this and other Wisconsin GLRI projects, visit: dnr.wi.gov/org/water/greatlakes/glri/index.htm



Photo by AMANDA OLIVE

September 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
AUGUST 2011 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	OCTOBER 2011 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Photo by SCOTT ANDERSON 		1	2	3
4	5  Labor Day	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 	22	23 Autumn Begins	24
25	26	27	28  Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown	29	30	Photo by WAYNE RUNDELL



ABOVE: "To Protect and Serve"
by KAREN GERSONDE
1st Place -- Lake Protection Activities
Milwaukee, WI

Migration

— by MARYANN HURT

*a million prisms light the lake
on this cheerleader blue sky of a day
I pad my way carefully
to the water's edge
geese chatter
on the best way south
I get too close
all discussion is off
their wet blanket flapping of wings
propels them
their honking loud at first
fades
and they are out of sight*

*I will wait out winter
for a cold March day
sit in marshy muck
listen for racket
and celebrate
reunion
all over again*



Photo by MICHELLE R. CAREY

October 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	SEPTEMBER 2011 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		NOVEMBER 2011 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			1
2	3 	4	5	6	7 Yom Kippur begins at sundown	8
9	10 Columbus Day	11 	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Clean Water Act signed in 1972	19 	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Halloween 					



November 2011

Emerging Trouble

Wisconsin's waterways are threatened by emerging pollutants in ways we are only beginning to understand. There are thousands of new chemicals in the environment, from plastics, rubber and fuels, to home and personal care products. Often these chemicals are hard to detect, cannot be fully removed by water treatment facilities, and may have combined effects. Emerging pollutants can end up in our lakes, streams and drinking water. Many are endocrine disruptors (chemicals that mimic hormones) and can have drastic effects on fish and frogs. It is unclear what affects these new chemicals may have on human health.

Keep these chemicals out of our water:

- Use medicines as directed and dispose of any remaining pharmaceuticals at local Med Drops.
- Consider healthier alternatives to home, yard and personal care products.
- Use up personal and home care products when possible.
- Properly dispose of all leftover chemicals. Never flush them down the toilet or pour them down the sink! Check for Clean Sweep events in your area.
- Recycle or properly dispose of old computers and other electronic equipment.

For more information, visit
dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/pharm/pharm.htm

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OCTOBER 2011 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	DECEMBER 2011 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1	2	3	4	5
6 Daylight Savings Time Ends	7	8	9	10 Veterans Day	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Day	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Photo by JAMES E. SCHULTZ



ABOVE: "Ice Breaker" by SHIRLEY BIRR
Two Rivers, WI

December 2011

Global Warming or Climate Change?

Global warming refers to the overall increase in average temperature of the earth. Climate change refers to smaller scale changes that are a consequence of a warming world and that affect us personally. These could be increases in humidity or evaporation, or a change in rain, snow or ice cover on our lakes.

Predicting these changes is complicated and scientists have developed many different mathematical models to do just that. Although the details differ, these models indicate that: 1) our climate is changing and 2) human activities are primarily responsible.

Monster storms, drought, and reduced ice cover on our lakes are all consistent with these models. As we have seen recently, these climate events can be environmentally, economically and socially devastating.

To learn about climate change in Wisconsin, visit climatewisconsin.org

The Wisconsin Climate Change Initiative (WICCI) is a diverse group of scientists, natural resource managers, business experts, local government officials, health professionals and others who are working to determine how a changing climate will affect our state and how we can adapt to these changes.

Learn more at www.wicci.wisc.edu

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4	5	6	7	8 Great Lakes Compact enacted in 2008	9	10
11	12 Great Lakes Restoration Strategy released in 2005	13 Great Lakes Compact signed by governors in 2005	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Hanukkah begins at sundown	21	22 Winter Begins	23	24
25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa Begins	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve



January 2012

New Year's Resolution: Fix a Leak

The average household wastes more than 10,000 gallons of water every year through easy-to-fix leaks. That's enough water to wash nearly 10 months worth of laundry! Fixing easily corrected household water leaks can save homeowners more than 10% on their water bills.

Stop the leak:

- Check for dripping faucets, showerheads and fixture connections.
- Check toilets for silent leaks. Put a few drops of food coloring into the tank, wait 15 minutes, and see if color appears in the bowl before you flush.
- Check irrigation systems and outdoor spigots.
- Use your water meter to check your whole house. Read your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter changes at all, you probably have a leak.

For more ways to save water, visit
dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/greatlakes/conservation
epa.gov/watersense/water_efficiency/what_you_can_do.html

A "water footprint" is an indicator of water use. Calculate your water footprint at
www.waterfootprint.org.

Remember to submit your best Great Lakes photos! See information on the first pages of this calendar. The deadline is **February 1, 2012**

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15	16 Soo Locks close to ships Martin Luther King Day	17	18	19	20	21																																																																																											
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29	30	31	<div>Photo by BOB FORD</div> 		<div>DECEMBER 2011</div> <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr></table> <div>FEBRUARY 2012</div> <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2						3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
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ABOVE: "Horton Bridge" by PHILIP SCHWARZ
Amnicon Falls State Park

Lake Superior

— by LIZ SMITH

The great inland sea,
The Queen Mother of all lakes,
The she-wolf of the north woods and
the Canadian Shield
Lies in her bed on the border of two
nations,
Of a blue that nothing else equals
As she sparkles in the summer sun.

Her moods are many, and
changeable in an hour.
She holds in her lap the lives of those
who invade her clear waters.
She wreaks havoc on her rocky
shores and curving beaches;
She lays still and glassy on warm
summer nights
While underneath, her great swells
of power and might remain.
She creates her own micro-climate.

This great inland sea whispers to me
 with her soft soothing waves on
 the beach,
 And roars to me with her twenty foot
 smashing breakers;
 She screams as the frigid winds send
 walls of snow across her surface,
 She shuts me out with her fog,
 And refreshes my tired mind and
 troubled soul with her eternal
 presence.
 She is timeless and will remain long
 after I am gone.
 How fortunate I am to have been
 given a glimpse into her
 intimacies.

This poem was shortened for inclusion in the calendar. To see the complete work, visit dnr.wi.gov/org/water/greatlakes/contest/

February 2012

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ABOVE: "Spring Storm"
by ERIC POGGEMANN
1st Place — Natural Features and Wildlife
Port Washington, WI

Northern Pike Habitat Restoration Project

County staff, DNR biologists, anglers, and other citizens are trying to make life a little easier for Lake Michigan's northern pike. They are working together to improve spawning and rearing habitat in Brown and Oconto counties.

Northern pike rely on healthy wetlands and intermittent streams for spawning. The west shore of Green Bay has lost 70% of its wetlands and its streams have been degraded by erosion and nutrient pollution. Federal funding through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) will support the restoration of 58 acres of wetlands and the addition of buffer strips along 16 miles of streams to protect them from polluted runoff.

This project will improve a valuable Wisconsin fishery, increasing sport-fishing opportunities and boosting the local economy.

For more information about this and other Wisconsin GLRI projects, visit dnr.wi.gov/org/water/greatlakes/glri/index.htm



Photo by HOLLY GERTZ

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ABOVE: "Ducks" by RACHEL FOSTER
Lake Michigan wetland

Reduce Your Carbon Footprint

The average person produces over 100 lbs of carbon dioxide (CO2) each day, contributing to climate change. Take these simple steps to decrease your "carbon footprint." Ride your bike, walk, car pool or use public transportation when possible. Keep your car tuned up and tires properly inflated. Use compact fluorescent bulbs in your home and turn lights and electronics off when you're not using them. During the day, set your computer to sleep; at night, shut it down. Have an energy audit done for your house to make it more comfortable and more efficient.

To calculate your carbon footprint, visit dnr.wi.gov/climatechange/role.htm

Find out more about climate change at dnr.wi.gov/climatechange/. Learn about planting trees for polar bears (and for Wisconsin's Great Lakes). Check out "The Link Between Green Trees and Blue Ice" on this web page.



Photo by MARC PONTO

April 2012

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ABOVE: "Lost Creek Falls"
by **GERVASE THOMPSON**
Near Cornucopia, WI

Prevent Nonpoint Source Pollution

Nonpoint source pollution (runoff) from farms and cities threatens Wisconsin's waters. We can help. Leave grass clippings in place after mowing and test your soil before fertilizing lawns. Seed bare ground and cover with mulch to decrease erosion. Plant a rain garden and direct your downspouts toward it. Use rain barrels to collect water for lawns and gardens. Instead of fertilizing, add mulch or compost to perennial gardens each year. Maintain your septic system if you have one. Clean up pet waste.

Compost leaves and plant-based food scraps. If you do put leaves on the curb, try to do so just before collection and keep them out of street-side gutters and ditches.

For more information, visit **dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/recycle/newpages/yardwaste.htmv2.mmsd.com/HowToHelp.aspx**

For information on beneficial landscaping, visit **www.epa.gov/greenkit/landscap.htm**




Photo by **JUDY HALVERSON**

Wisconsin DNR • Office

Nonpoint source pollution (runoff) from farms and cities threatens Wisconsin's waters. We can help. Leave grass clippings in place after mowing and test your soil before fertilizing lawns. Seed bare ground and cover with mulch to decrease erosion. Plant a rain garden and direct your downspouts toward it. Use rain barrels to collect water for lawns and gardens. Instead of fertilizing, add mulch or compost to perennial gardens each year. Maintain your septic system if you have one. Clean up pet waste.

For more information, visit
dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/recycle/newpages/yardwaste.htmv2.mmsd.com/HowToHelp.aspx

A photograph of a sailboat on the water under a dramatic, cloudy sky at sunset or sunrise. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, and the water is a deep blue-grey. The sailboat is a small, dark silhouette in the center of the frame.

Wisconsin DNR • Office of the Great Lakes

May 2012

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
	2	3
	9	10
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Wisconsin

A large rainbow trout is shown in mid-air, having just jumped out of a fishing net. The fish is silvery with a pinkish-red stripe along its side and a dark back. Its mouth is open, and it appears to be shaking water. The net is dark and meshed, and the background is a bright, slightly blurred outdoor setting.

Photo by DOUG STAMM

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Wisconsin's GREAT LAKES!



ABOVE: "Canoe at Dawn"
by **TIM FEATHERS**
2nd Place – People Enjoying Wisconsin's Great Lakes
Peninsula State Park

June 2012

Ashland Shoreline Restoration

Industrialization of Ashland's waterfront in the early 1900's significantly altered the natural environment of the shoreline. Lumber mills, wharves for handling coal, ore, limestone, logs, and pulpwood negatively impacted the ecology of this once pristine environment. Much of the industrial activity has ended, but significant amounts of debris still pollute Ashland's waterfront.

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funds will support the restoration of 4,100 feet of public shore land in the City of Ashland. The DNR is working in partnership with Michigan Technical University, the City of Ashland, Ashland County, UW-Extension, Northland College and a team of citizen volunteers to restore this economically and environmentally valuable area. Scientists will study the effects of the restoration on native wildlife as well as the impact on runoff pollution to Lake Superior.

Restoring Lake Superior's post-industrial lands to more natural shorelines will enhance scenic beauty, protect the region's ecology, and provide opportunities for recreation and tourism.

For more information about the GLRI, visit dnr.wi.gov/water/greatlakes/glri/index.htm

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3	4 June 4–8 National Rip Current Awareness Week Visit www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov/	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Flag Day	13	14	15	16
17 Father's Day	18	19	20	21 Summer Begins	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



ABOVE: "Riding the Waves"
by CAROLEE EURITT SALAT
1st Place -- People Enjoying Wisconsin's Great Lakes
Madeline Island

July 2012

Rx: Great Lakes!

From the calming effects of a walk in the woods to the intense cardiovascular workout of a run on the beach, health care professionals are recognizing the benefits of nature outings on mental and physical health. Many are even starting to prescribe outdoor activity to help treat conditions from heart disease to attention deficit disorder.

At Wisconsin's State Parks, you can enjoy a wealth of recreation opportunities. Hike, run, bike, ski, snowshoe, kayak, canoe, surf, wade, swim and walk the dunes along the shores of the Great Lakes. To find a State Park on Lake Michigan or Lake Superior, visit dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks

"Get Outdoors! Wisconsin" addresses a growing problem that author Richard Louv terms "nature deficit disorder." For ideas about getting your family outside, visit dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks/interp/getoutdoors



Photo by WENDI HUFFMAN

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7
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Photo by BRENT ZEINERT



ABOVE: "One Last Splash"
by CAROLEE EURITT SALAT
Apostle Islands

August 2012

What's a Waterspout?

Waterspouts are an unusual weather phenomenon that can sometimes be seen over the Great Lakes. There are two types of waterspouts: tornadic and fair weather. Tornadic waterspouts start as true tornadoes associated with thunder storms that move out across the water. Tornadic waterspouts can be very large and destructive. Fair weather waterspouts form when cool air masses move across warm lake water and usually occur from August through October. Fair weather waterspouts are usually small, relatively brief and less destructive than tornadic waterspouts. However, both should be taken seriously.

When warnings are issued for waterspouts, quickly seek safe harbor or find shelter out of the path of the waterspout. It is unsafe to be on the water when waterspouts occur...but its fun to watch them on You Tube! www.youtube.com (search: water spouts).

NOAA's All Hazards Weather Radio broadcasts current weather information 24 hours a day. For more information, visit www.crh.noaa.gov/apx/nwr.php



Photo by TIM FEATHERS

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	Photo by KATIE GRAHN		Wisconsin State Fair Begins PICK UP YOUR 2013 GREAT LAKES CALENDAR! August 2-12		3	4
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Wisconsin State Fair Ends	20	21	22	23	24	25
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Photo by JAMES LODUHA



ABOVE: "Kenosha Daybreak"
by JOHN M. GLOWACKI
1st Place – Cultural and Historic Features
Kenosha, WI

ABCs of Dawn

— by BONNIE DICKMANN

A day does not
Break on our Great Lake
Coming loud and rambunctious
Demanding attention.

Every dawn I know
Feels supple, breathes support
Glowing lava
Heating the day.

Indeed, sometimes I am
Jostled into wakefulness
Kindling a sense of urgency
Leading me to sense
Maybe days pass too quickly.

No need to worry
Our lake sunrise
Presents opportunity
Quiescence of hope
Revealed in Nature's gift.

Start each day
Traveling in bliss
Under this serene
View of perfection.

Window to a world
Xanadu, perhaps
Your own early chance for
Zen.



Photo by HOLLY GERTZ

September 2012

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October 2012

A Legacy of Trouble

The Great Lakes and their tributaries have been vital to the growth of Wisconsin industries. Unfortunately, many of the chemicals used in past manufacturing – legacy pollutants – remain in the sediments of the lakes and rivers. Legacy pollutants are chemicals that remain in the environment for a long time. These chemicals include mercury, lead, arsenic and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

PCBs are a group of about 200 manmade chemicals that were produced and used from 1929 to 1970 when they were banned. PCBs build up in the food chain and can affect the health of fish, wildlife and humans. In fish and wildlife PCBs can affect the immune, reproductive, nervous and endocrine systems. In humans they are also suspected carcinogens.

With the help of Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funds, on-going clean up of many of our state's toxic sediment sites can proceed more quickly.

Learn more about PCBs and other legacy pollutants, at dnr.wi.gov/org/water/greatlakes/priorities/aocs.html

For more information on the GLRI, visit dnr.wi.gov/org/water/greatlakes/glri/index.htm

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November 2012

A River Runs Backward

In 1907, the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal was completed, connecting Lake Michigan to the Des Plaines River and beyond. The canal came about for a couple reasons. In the late 1870s – early 1880s the people of Chicago became concerned about the flow of sewage into Lake Michigan, Chicago's drinking water source. There was also a desire to connect more tightly to world trade. The canal provided a means to dispose of treated wastewater and provided Chicago industry and commerce a direct link to the oceans through the Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico. Unfortunately, it also provided a link between the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan that allows the passage of invasive species like Asian carp.

Does the Chicago River "flow backward?" It's a little complicated, but basically the flow of the river was reversed. The divide between the Lake Michigan and Mississippi River basins is only 12 miles from Chicago. Excavating through the ridge that separates the two basins was the key to the diversion. Today, diversions like this from the Great Lakes are very closely regulated by the Great Lakes Compact – an agreement between all Great Lakes states and provinces.

For more information about the Great Lakes Compact, visit
dnr.wi.gov/org/water/greatlakes/annex2001

To learn more about Asian carp, visit
dnr.wi.gov/news/mediakits/mk_carpcontrol.asp

For more information and historic photos of the canal, visit
www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/300018.html

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ABOVE: "Shades of Winter"
by GERVASE THOMPSON
Amnicon Falls State Park

December 2012

Lake Michigan, Lake Michigan

— by KAREN GERSONDE

*Lake Michigan, Lake Michigan, I hear
your waters calling.
Calling me back to days of old, calling
me back to your waters so cold.*

*My childhood memories play on your
shores, skipping stones by scores
and scores.*

*Walking along beaches covered with
stones, swimming in water that
chilled to the bone.*

*My father, mother and brother, too,
would drive down to the harbor to
see what was new.*

*Huge freighters, ore carriers,
fishermen and boats, we would
see everything and anything that
would float.*

*Your winter world was second to
none, with spectacular ice flows
glistening in the sun.*

*The docks and breakwaters were
covered in white; your glorious
splendor was quite a sight.*

*Oh Michigan, Lake Michigan, I yearn
for the days of old, although my
memories are in the past, your
waters hold more memories to be
told.*



Photo by CAROL SEAGO

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For more information, visit: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/greatlakes>



ABOVE: "Summer Spirits" by KRAIG KRUEGER
Herbster, WI

*"The ultimate test of a man's
conscience may be his
willingness to sacrifice
something today for future
generations whose words of
thanks will not be heard."*

GAYLORD NELSON

former governor of Wisconsin
and co-founder of Earth Day



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Office of the Great Lakes, 101 S. Webster, Madison, WI 53707-7921

<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/greatlakes>

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